

Message Text

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13

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 AID-20 DRC-01 /073 W

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R 200802Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

SECSTATE WASHDC 8240

INFO AMCONSUL LAHORE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PK

SUBJECT: BANDIT ACTIVITY IN SIND

1. JULY 18 "DAILY NEWS" REPORTED THAT ARMED BANDITS HAD HALTED AND ROBBED AN OFFICIAL PARTY NEAR THE DISTRICT TOWN OF DADU (SIND) THREE DAYS EARLIER. THE PARTY, TRAVELING IN ABOUT A DOZEN CARS, INCLUDED HIGH PROVINCIAL MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE OFFICIALS WHO WERE ESCORTING BUT HAD BECOME SEPARATED FROM TOURING SIND AGRICULTURE MINISTER MIR ATTA HUSSAIN TALPUR. MINISTER'S CAR DELAYED AND HE THEREBY AVOIDED ROBBERY BY FEW MINUTES. A JAPANESE DESCRIBED BY NEWSPAPERS AS A "DIPLOMAT" PASSING ALONG ROAD AT ABOUT SAME TIME WAS ALSO ROBBED. THERE WERE NO CASUALTIES AND AS YET NO ARRESTS.

2. COMMENT: INCREASING BANDIT ACTIVITY IN AREAS OF SIND NEAR THE BALUCHISTAN BORDER MAY MEAN THAT BALUCH TRIBAL INSURGENTS ARE OPERATING FURTHER AFIELD OR THAT SINDHI DACOITS ARE BECOMING MORE DARING. OBSERVERS FAMILIAR WITH DADU DISTRICT MAINTAIN THAT OUTLAWS LURKING IN ITS FORESTS NEED NOT RETIRE INTO BALUCHISTAN TO AVOID CAPTURE AND THAT BOTH BALUCH AND SINDHI BANDITS ARE NOW ACTIVE THERE. IN ANY EVENT, PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO HAS REPORTEDLY CALLED SIND

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CHIEF MINISTER JATOI AND TOP PROVINCIAL POLICE, SECURITY,

AND INTELLIGENCE OFFICIALS TO LARKANA TO DISCUSS THE
LOCAL LAW AND ORDER SITUATION, INCLUDING RAIDS INTO SIND
BY BALUCH TRIBESMEN.

3. JAPANESE CONSUL GENERAL ARIMOTO TOLD ME ON JULY 20
THAT NEITHER HE NOR HIS EMBASSY KNEW OF ROBBERY OF ANY
JAPANESE CONSULAR OR DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL AT DADU.
ARIMOTO SAID HE HAD CONFIRMED ABOVE DETAILS OF ROBBERY
FROM PRIVATE SECRETARY OF MINISTER TALPUR WHO WAS ONE OF
ROBBERY VICTIMS, AND WHO CONFIRMED THAT A JAPANESE WAS
ALSO STOPPED AND ROBBED. ARIMOTO BELIEVES JAPANESE MAY
BE A COLUMBO PLAN OR OTHER AID TECHNICIAN.
BRYANT

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